State Board of Education Request for Freeway School Accreditation

Name of Requesting School:	 Mooresville Christian Academy		
			T
Board Date:	September 2, 2009	Grade Span:	K-8
Education Director:	Mike Osborn	Public or Private:	Private
Location Address:	4271 E State Road 144	Enrollment:	238
City/Town	Magraguilla Indiana 46159	Targeted Student	Christian Students

Mooresville, Indiana 46158

Indiana Department of Education Office of School Accreditation and Awards

The following executive summary has been compiled by the Division of Educator Licensing and School Accreditation for use by the Indiana State Board of Education. It includes information presented by the school during the accreditation process, potential legal standard issues, and any other information collected during the process that may impact accreditation.

Summary of Materials Presented to the Board:

City/Town:

- 1. Identity "Mooresville Christian Academy (MCA) is a private, 501(c) 3, non-denominational Christian School established in 1975 and located in Mooresville Indiana. MCA has been continuously accredited since 2002 by the Association of Christian Schools International and the North Central Association. The Board of Directors is comprised of seven members, the ultimate authority for MCA. The Board is responsible for establishing policy and selecting the administrator of the school. The Board meets monthly to discuss the business of the school."
- 2. **Attendance** –"MCA agrees to attain average attendance rate that increases not less than two percent (2%) each school year until the average rate is eighty-five percent (85%); and one percent (1 %) each school year until the average rate is ninety percent (90%)."
- 3. **Graduation** Not Applicable
- 4. **Benchmarks** –"Our Curriculum Guide has the Indiana Academic Standards as its academic base, insuring that the curriculum being taught is meeting those Standards. MCA will administer the ISTEP+ to her students on a yearly basis, giving clear indication of the academic progress of her students. MCA will continue to file reports with the State Department of Education for attendance rates and health and safety. MCA will continue accreditation with ACSI which requires yearly evaluation of the entire program. Through

Christian Students

Population:

ACSI accreditation, it is required that we address the major recommendations of a visitation team and report on a yearly basis. It is also required that we report our progress on a yearly basis for our school improvement plan. In addition, the school's compliance with standards of excellence is reported on a yearly basis."

5. **Staffing** –"All staff members are required to be Christians and are expected to be examples of Christian faith for the students of MCA. Teachers are licensed with the State of Indiana. Our faculty's education degrees are from both public and Christian colleges and universities. The teaching faculty ranges from three years as a professional teacher to thirty years of experience. Every teacher is presently required to obtain an Indiana Teacher certification and certification through the Association of Christian Schools International."

"It is requested that the Board of Education be willing to consider MCA teachers who: a have an out-of-state license in their field; b. have a degree in the subject taught at the middle schoo11eve1, but do not have an education degree; c. have an elementary license and may, under emergency situations be assigned to teach in the area of fine arts or computer literacy."

Waiver Requests:

• IC 20-20-5-2 Textbook Adoption, 511 IAC 6.1-5-5 Textbook Adoption:

"MCA's intentions are to follow the Indiana textbook adoption cycle. MCA seeks a suspension of the requirement for adopting from the state list and a suspension of the requirement for filing waivers for adoption of texts other than those on the state list. Due to the core nature of our academy, MCA parents, teachers and Board Directors often find Christian texts more appropriate for the educational processes and purposes of the school. Textbooks are chosen at MCA based upon that textbook's ability to honor Christ and coordinate a Christian worldview. The MCA curriculum guide lists Biblical Standards in first priority followed by the Indiana Academic Standards. A number of secular and non-Christian texts are currently in use because the academic content has been judged as superior and the academy has found other texts or materials to integrate Biblical truth in that particular subject/grade."

• IC 20-30-5-8 Safety education hygiene, tobacco, prescription drugs, and controlled substances:

"These subjects are included in MCA instruction from a Biblical worldview. Respect and care of the human body begins with a perspective that our bodies are God's temple and all Christians have the responsibility to honor God in the care and safety of their physical beings. It is also a clear Biblical mandate that Christians should exercise self-control and not be controlled by drugs or alcoholic beverages. Christian decision-making processes hold first priority in God's Word and instruction at MCA. This results in the clear message of a Biblically-based life style of safety, hygiene and non-abuse of drugs."

Issues:

Teacher Licensing

Recommendations: Five Year Freeway Accreditation

Rationale: The Freeway legislation does not require a non-public school to employ licensed teachers. After discussions with school officials, staff licensing meets or exceeds licensing in other Freeway schools.			